

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/019,722

Examiner

Roderick Bradford

Applicant(s)

NODSKOV, PREBEN

Art Unit

3762

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 22 September 2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-3.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 02 January 2002 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Norman Latker on January 12, 2005.

The application has been amended as follows:

1. A handheld piezoelectric acupuncture stimulator with a pen-like, exterior casing (1), ~~[at one end of exterior casing which]~~ an actuator button (5) ~~[is]~~ mounted at one end of the casing, ~~[while the other end is provided surface with]~~ a contact pin (9) retracted from an end surface (3), said contact pin provided at the other end of the casing, the contact pin intended for contact with the skin in an acupuncture zone, said contact pin being connected with a first electrode (19) of a piezoelectric converter (18), ~~[the]~~ a second electrode (20) of ~~[which is]~~ the piezoelectric converter being in electrical connection ~~[, on one hand,]~~ with a hand contact (7) and ~~[is]~~ being mechanically operable ~~[, on the other hand,]~~ by means of a spring-loaded impact hammer (23) operated by the actuator button (5) for generation of high-voltage electric pain relieving pulse with a low energy content, characterized in that the piezoelectric converter (18) is mounted together with said first and second electrodes (19, 20) and said impact hammer (23) with ~~[associated]~~ a spring system, ~~[which comprises]~~ said spring system comprising an actuator compression spring (25) and a return spring (27), in a common electrically

Art Unit: 3762

insulating interior casing (8) designed for form-fit mounting in the ~~[substantially electrically insulating]~~ exterior casing (1) ~~[with]~~ said contact pin (9) being retained with a ~~[comparatively]~~ short, protruding length at one end of the interior casing (8), ~~[at the other end of which]~~ a longitudinally displaceable impact hammer actuator (16) ~~[is]~~ being mounted at another end of the interior casing, said actuator being mechanically connected with the actuator button (5), whereby the electric connection between the second electrode (20) of the piezoelectric converter (18) and said hand contact (7) comprises a leaf spring contact (10), which projects through the interior casing (8) and extends between said interior casing (8) and the exterior casing (1) establishing contact with the hand contact (7) which is ~~[designed as]~~ shaped as a contact ring.

2. An acupuncture stimulator according to claim 1, characterized in that the leaf spring contact (10) ~~[with]~~ has a bent end portion (11) ~~[is]~~ fixed in a recess (12) at the free edge of an end member of the exterior casing said end member serving as a support for the contact ring (7).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Roderick Bradford whose telephone number (571) 272-4942. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 9 a.m. - 6:30 p.m..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Angela Sykes can be reached on (571) 272-4955. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Art Unit: 3762

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

R. Bradford
RB

Angela D. Sykes

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